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Americans hold narrow view of world  
THIBODAUX, La.  
Liddy

Watergate mastermind G. Gordon Liddy described the world as a "very bad neighborhood" and criticized Americans who advocate a reduction in defense spending and elimination of the Central Intelligence Agency.

Liddy, speaking to students at Nicholls State University Monday, said United States residents lived a life of illusion that included an "apple pie American naivete about politics, espionage and national security."

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Liddy said Americans' illusions about spying and their insistence the CIA remain inactive had caused 15 allies of the United States to cut America off from an international exchange of information that would have bolstered U.S. national security.

"Espionage is something I know a little bit about," he said. "Everybody's doing it, but you and everybody in the world thinks you're a fool for not doing it. Spies are a country's eyes and ears. Without spies, you are blind and deaf."

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*EXCERPTED*